

Appl. No. : 10/015,039  
Filed : December 10, 2001

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for deep-frying in a basket a chip food product that is consistent in quality, both in terms of being properly cooked but also having a curled configuration adapted for holding dipped food and having an aesthetically pleasing appearance, the apparatus comprising:

a basket for holding a chip food product;

a chip fry lid engageable with [for] said basket having a wire frame and an array of alternating long and short U-shaped wire prongs depending from the bottom of said lid, wherein the long U-shaped wire prongs extend lower than the short U-shaped wire prongs.

2-8. (Canceled)

9. (New) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising a handle connected to said lid extending upwardly and outwardly from said lid.

10. (New) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising at least one hook extending from the lid adapted to engage a top edge of the basket.

11. (New) An apparatus for deep-frying in a basket a chip food product that is consistent in quality, both in terms of being properly cooked but also having a curled configuration adapted for holding dipped food and having an aesthetically pleasing appearance, the apparatus comprising:

a basket for holding a chip food product;

a chip fry lid engageable with said basket having a wire frame and wires bent to form a series of repeating long and short posts attached to said frame and extending downwardly from said frame, said long posts extending further downwardly from said frame than said short posts.

12. (New) The apparatus of Claim 11, wherein the long and short posts are alternating.

13. (New) The apparatus of Claim 11, wherein the long and short posts are generally U-shaped.

14. (New) The apparatus of Claim 11, wherein each of the long and short posts comprises a pair of adjacent bent wire portions.

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15. (New) The apparatus of Claim 11, further comprising a handle connected to said lid extending upwardly and outwardly from said lid.

16. (New) The apparatus of Claim 11, further comprising at least one hook extending from the lid adapted to engage a top edge of the basket.

17. (New) An apparatus for deep-frying in a basket a chip food product that is consistent in quality, both in terms of being properly cooked but also having a curled configuration adapted for holding dipped food and having an aesthetically pleasing appearance, the apparatus comprising:

a basket for holding a chip food product;

a chip fry lid engageable with said basket having a wire frame and a series of repeating long and short posts attached to said frame and extending downwardly from said frame, each of said posts formed by juxtaposed pairs of U-shaped wire prongs depending from said frame.

18. (New) The apparatus of Claim 17, further comprising a handle connected to said lid extending upwardly and outwardly from said lid.

19. (New) The apparatus of Claim 17, further comprising at least one hook extending from the lid adapted to engage a top edge of the basket.

20. (New) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the long posts extend further downwardly from the wire frame than the short posts.

21. (New) An apparatus for deep-frying in a basket a chip food product that is consistent in quality, both in terms of being properly cooked but also having a curled configuration adapted for holding dipped food and having an aesthetically pleasing appearance, the apparatus comprising:

a basket for holding a chip food product;

a chip fry lid engageable with said basket having a wire frame and a series of repeating long and short posts attached to said frame and extending downwardly from said frame, each of said posts formed by juxtaposed pairs of bent wires in which the bottom of each post is formed by wires bent to form two generally horizontal wires, each horizontal wire connected by curved wires to two generally vertical wires.

22. (New) The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising a handle connected to said lid extending upwardly and outwardly from said lid.

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23. (New) The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising at least one hook extending from the lid adapted to engage a top edge of the basket.

24. (New) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the long posts extend further downwardly from the wire frame than the short posts.

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## **SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW**

### Exhibits and/or Demonstrations

None

### Identification of Claims Discussed

Claim 1 and proposed new claims.

### Identification of Prior Art Discussed

U.S. Patent No. 2,186,345 to Reidenbach.

### Proposed Amendments

Applicant proposed new claims to encompass subject matter contained in previously restricted claims. Applicant also proposed language to Claim 1 to distinguish Reidenbach.

### Principal Arguments and Other Matters

Applicant and Examiner discussed including limitations in the new claims to be consistent with Applicant's election of Claim 1, as summarized in the Examiner's Interview Summary Form.

### Results of Interview

Applicant is hereby submitting amended and new claims as discussed in the Interview.